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WEATHER—Tonight and Wednesday Cloudy, Probably Rain; Colder Tonight.

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Vera Cruz Has Been Captured

Washington, April 21.—Secretary Daniels hurried to the White House just before 6 o'clock for a conference with the president. An unconfirmed report was in circulation then that Admiral Fletcher had reported the seizure of Vera Cruz with a loss of four marines killed, and 21 wounded.

FLETCHER STOPS LANDING OF HUERTA MUNITIONS OF WAR

Broad Powers Given Commander—Congress Debates on Wording of Resolution While President and Cabinet Take Action Made Necessary by Arrival of German Steamer With Guns and Ammunition for Mexican Government.

Washington, April 21.—5:30 p. m.—Secretary Daniels announced late today that Rear Admiral Mayo with his flagship Connecticut and most of the other vessels under his command at Tampico had steamed for Vera Cruz.

All the vessels of Rear Admiral Badger's fleet had been ordered to go directly to Vera Cruz. Secretary Daniels late today chartered the liner Moro Castle at New York as a Transport to carry to Mexican waters the regiment of marines ordered assembled at Philadelphia.

Washington, April 21.—In response to a question by Senator Weeks on the floor of the senate, Senator Shively said:

"I don't want to speak with positiveness of just what has occurred at Vera Cruz, because I might be mistaken but my impression is that the city of Vera Cruz has been taken; that it has been taken without the firing of a gun; that it is in possession of our forces."

Washington, April 21.—While congress was debating the Mexican situation, President Wilson ordered Rear Admiral Fletcher to seize the Vera Cruz customs house and prevent Huerta from getting several millions of dollars of munitions and two hundred field guns on a German steamer bound for that port.

The orders went out from Washington early today when it became apparent that the delay in congress was accruing to the advantage of Huerta.

At noon the cabinet was in session, and, so far as was known, no word had been received from Admiral Fletcher of his action. The orders, officials said, left to the admiral's discretion when to act. As there is no blockade, the American forces could not interfere with the German steamer. The orders were to seize the guns and shells after they had landed or to seize the customs house to prevent their landing and thus keep them from going to Mexico City.

President Has Ample Power. Officials declared that President Wilson had ample authority for his action without the approval of congress.

Meanwhile both house and senate reconvened and the senate began work on the resolution of approval of the president's course.

The orders went out to Admiral Fletcher at daybreak after President Wilson and cabinet officials had been in conference since 4 a. m., mostly over the telephone. The orders to the admiral, it was said, conferred the broadest authority on him and directing that if necessary he take the town of Vera Cruz as well as the customs house to prevent the landing of the munitions.

Officials here said the admiral might act in several ways. He might wait until the German steamer had landed her cargo unmolested and then take the customs house and the munitions, or when the German steamer comes to the port he might seize the customs house and if the guns were landed, they would come into possession of the American forces. That the steamer might take her cargo to some other port was a possibility of which officials were cognizant.

Awaiting Reply. Some report from the admiral was being awaited momentarily.

When news reached the capital that the order had gone to Admiral Fletcher, it aroused considerable enthusiasm among senators and representatives.

Democratic senate leaders believed an order to the American commander to begin actual operations would serve to hurry action on the resolution to back up the president's course.

Republican leaders were planning to champion the substitute submitted by Senator Lodge, which refers to the long series of outrages against Americans in Mexico. This was not accepted, however, by the Democrats. Neither will it be accepted by house leaders, it was stated.

The house resolution, as amended by the foreign relations committee, was laid before the senate soon after it met at noon.

A new resolution to accept the

apologies already offered by Huerta as "sufficient reparation" for the Tampico incident was introduced by Senator Weeks, Republican.

Secretary Daniels left the cabinet meeting at 12:29 o'clock. He was asked about the orders to Admiral Fletcher.

"It would be very unwise for me to say anything at this time," was his reply.

Lodge Opens Debate in Senate.

"In a situation of high seriousness, such as now confronts congress, it is well to remember the responsibility of the senate," he began. "The power to declare war rests, under the constitution, with the congress."

"When the president lays an international controversy before congress he takes the last step that precedes war," continued Mr. Lodge. "The president might have taken further steps, but he has come to the body which alone has power to declare war. I think he has done well."

Senator Lodge resented any imputations that the Republicans were "lacking in proper regard for the honor of the flag."

Outrages Are Recalled.

"But we must also think of that which the flag covers—the citizens of the United States," he said. "150 American citizens have perished on Mexican soil. I cannot, in demanding atonement of the insult at Tampico, overlook these outrages. I cannot pass these murders silently by without saying that here is a greater wrong to be atoned, a wrong which must not be and shall not be repeated."

"I cannot be put in a position where I appear to pick and choose between the factions that today tear Mexico asunder. I cannot join in any resolution which puts the United States in the position of performing one murder and cut throat above another murder and cut throat."

Huerta Condemned.

"I have no desire to criticize President Wilson for his failure to recognize General Huerta. He no doubt proceeded on grounds appearing to him as sufficient. I condemn as strongly as I can the methods of treachery and bloodshed by which Huerta reached his present position. But the fact that I condemn his methods does not lead me to put myself in a position which by distortion of the acts which we take here, or of the words which we utter here, would put me behind Villa—Villa who began life as a hired assassin and whose pathway has been marked with bloodshed, rapine, plunder and by unnamable crimes, which are a disgrace to the country in which he lives."

"It is for that reason that the minority of the committee on foreign relations has presented the substitute for the preamble of the resolution. Not one sentence can be denied. Each is a melancholy truth."

Great Historic Action.

The senator added that the first act under the resolution would be the taking of Vera Cruz. "We are engaged at this moment," he declared, lowering his voice emotionally, "not in dealing with a question involving the gravest responsibilities that can confront the congress, but as not off-

REAR ADMIRAL FLETCHER IN COMMAND AT VERA CRUZ; ADMIRAL BADGER AND FLEET NEARING TAMPICO



Rear Admiral Fletcher (left). Admiral Badger.

en happens, we are participating in a great historic action. The grounds of our action here today will lie before the world and will come to the tribunal of history. If we are to intervene in Mexico at any point, I want to lift it from the level of personal hostilities and place it on the broad ground of great national action taken in the interest and for the protection of American lives in a foreign country and for the purpose also of restoring peace and order, if we can."

Resolution of Paramount Importance.

Senator Shively, acting chairman of the committee, declared the pending resolution was of "paramount importance."

"The attempted parallel between the present proceedings and the proceedings leading up to the declaration of war in Spain is futile," he said. "It is never too late to declare war, it may easily become too late to secure peace. That action was a declaration of war. This resolution is a good faith effort to preserve peace."

He said the president had not asked congress for authority, because he did not wish to pursue a war. Mr. Shively contended the Lodge preamble would have no result but war.

Shively Urges Expedition.

"Expedition here is vital," said Senator Shively emphatically. "Because this is an effort to preserve peace."

"Would the seizure of Vera Cruz by force be an act of peace or an act of war?" asked Senator Brandage. "It would not be an act of war," said Senator Shively. "It would be an act of reprisal. On many occasions has the United States landed forces and seized property and no war has ensued."

Acts Meant as Insults.

Senator Shively insisted the true complaint was of acts, not assaults on private persons or property but acts that had all the evidence of being meant as insults to the United States government and meant to impeach the power and sovereignty. "It was a plain, deliberate assault on our uniform, on all our navy stands for," said Senator Shively, referring to the Tampico incident.

"The situation in Mexico is bad enough. No one will dispute that. But here we are engaged in an effort to avoid going further than is necessary and at the same time to impress on those in authority that the dignity of the United States must be respected."

Senator Shively said those who had been "clamoring for intervention" had not thought of the danger to the thousands of American citizens in Mexico.

"I say it is a moral in view of the character of that people, with 60,000 of our citizens there, that we have escaped without a great number of casualties," he declared.

Lodge Preamble Declaration of War. Mr. Shively referred to the Lodge preamble.

"This proposed preamble would transform this resolution into a de-

claration of war," he said. "If we are to make a declaration of war—then let us make it. Let us not engage in the unavailing phariseism of citing facts which justify war and instant war and then adopt these resolutions. Are we in the same breath to declare half a dozen reasons why war should be declared on Mexico and in concluding the resolution declare our purpose not to do so? There can be no question as to what the natural effect of that preamble would be if addressed to any great power of the world. All the recitations of the resolution would be idle."

Senator Shively said that senators who were anxious for war may well wait until "this resolution is tried as a means for peace."

Williams Takes Floor.

Senator John Sharp Williams, Democrat, then took the floor in support of the committee's resolution.

"The time may come," he said, "when war over a mere puntillio will not be basis for war. But today, if the president had overlooked this insult to the flag, he would have been condemned from every hill and valley in the United States. Therefore, with the world semi-barbaric, semi-civilized, I must support the president. I don't want to kill any Mexicans. I don't want any Mexicans killing me."

The Lodge substitute, Senator Williams said, was a declaration of war against Mexico and the Mexican people.

Wants Resolution "Short of War."

"I want," said Senator Williams, "this resolution to be so worded that the world shall know it shall be war on Huerta until either Huerta salutes that flag or Huerta becomes an American prisoner or Huerta were to die."

A wave of applause swept the galleries.

Galleries Are Cleared.

"The sergeant at arms will clear the galleries," directed the vice president. About a hundred men were immediately removed.

Huerta has studiously endeavored to insult the president and the government of the United States. It is not a matter of injury or property, or life, it's a matter of insult to the honor of the flag. The president sounded the right keynote—Huerta. The house of representatives struck the keynote—Victrolana Huerta. And when I vote for these resolutions I do it with the hope that the house in conference will insist on naming Huerta the insulting party."

If war shall follow these resolutions the civilized world should know that it is war forced by Huerta. And if war shall come it should be war against, not the Mexican people, but against Huerta."

Enforce Respect for Flag.

Senator Williams added that he was willing to enforce respect for the flag but when that was done he believed the United States should get out of Mexico.

"If you once get into Mexico, it will be the hardest thing in the world

MORE TROOPS ARE SENT TO LUDLOW

Dead Strikers Lying Along Railroad Tracks—Great Excitement Prevails.

ALL WIRES CUT DOWN
Additional Supplies Sent to 175 Militia—Who Are Facing 400 to 700 Enraged Miners.

Trinidad, Colo., April 21.—Three women and a number of children, possibly ten, were smothered to death in the fire that swept the Ludlow tent colony last night, according to a statement given out at union headquarters. The party had taken refuge in a cave. The statement is confirmed at the military camp at Ludlow.

The discovery of the bodies will raise the number of victims to 20 or more. A majority of them were women and children.

Strikers who escaped from the tents last night reported to union headquarters today that Mrs. R. H. Jolly, the leader of the women strikers at Ludlow, is among those killed. Her three-month-old baby was with her yesterday.

Trinidad, Colo., April 21.—Hundreds of armed strikers who yesterday battled four hours with state troops in the Ludlow district had disappeared this morning, and quiet prevailed in and about the strikers' demolished tent colony.

The one hundred militiamen who opposed the strikers this morning were in possession of the railroad tracks from the steel bridge to a point north and west of the burned colony. Reinforcements from Lamar and Walsenburg today swelled the number of soldiers on the ground to 160.

The list of identified dead was swelled to six and it seemed certain that at least as many more fell in yesterday's fighting.

The Identified Dead.

A. MARTIN, private, company A, First regiment, Denver.

LOUIS TIKAS, leader of the Greek strikers, Ludlow colony.

EDWARD EYLER, secretary of the Ludlow local union.

CHARLES COSTA, Aguilar union leader.

FRANK SNYDER, aged 12.

PREMO LARSIE, 18, Trinidad, killed by stray bullet.

An unconfirmed rumor stated that

two small children were smothered to death in the blaze that razed the colony at 9 o'clock last night and the bodies of other strikers are said to be still lying on yesterday's field of battle.

Trinidad, April 21.—Twenty or more were believed to be dead and the number of wounded was unknown when day dawned on the Ludlow battlefield where yesterday 100 militiamen and sheriff deputies fought a sanguinary battle with strikers.

Throughout the night, bodies of strikers, heavily armed, moved from various coal camps toward Ludlow and a renewal of the conflict was expected momentarily. Eighty-seven militiamen from Lamar and Walsenburg, ordered out last night by General John Chase, reached the scene of conflict during the forenoon.

The known dead:

PRIVATE A. MARTIN, Company A, Denver.

LOUIS TIKAS, Greek strike leader.

Wounded:

Private Lewis Purcell, Colorado Springs, condition improved.

The Ludlow tent colony presented a scene of death and desolation today, only four or five of the tents remaining standing. Soldiers declare that quantities of ammunition were exploded by the blaze that swept the tent colony during the night.

An unidentified man driving a horse attached to a light buggy, dashed from the tents waving a white flag, just after the fire started. When ordered to halt he is said to have opened fire with a revolver and was killed by a return volley from the militia.

Dead Strikers Beside Tracks.

Yesterday's battle centered about the big trestle of the Colorado & Southeastern railway, and several dead were said to be lying along the tracks behind which the strikers had taken refuge.

Throughout the day and intermittently during the night, the fighting raged over an area of approximately three square miles, bounded on the west by Berwind and Hastings, on the east by Barnes station, on the north by the Ludlow tent colony, and on the south by Rameyville. The battlefield was completely isolated by the cutting of telegraph and telephone wires.

Relief Expedition Organized.

The fighting began early yesterday when a militia detachment under Lieutenant Linderfelt started to investigate the cause of firing near Cedar Hill. As the day progressed word of the clash reached officials and a relief expedition consisting of 50 members of the newly organized Trinidad militia company was sent to the scene on a special train manned by J. H. Abrams, superintendent of the Colorado & Southeastern, with Master Mechanic Roach as engineer, and Dispatcher Willis as fireman. The detachment south of Ludlow and came up on the strikers barricaded in the pumping station. As dusk closed in on the field of carnage the strikers retreated along a gully back of the blazing tent colony, followed by the militia, who swept the valley with machine guns.

Grave Asked for Supplies.

Major P. J. Hamrock spent the night strengthening the position of his men. A request was sent to Denver for additional supplies of ammunition.

With the arrival of the Walsenburg and Lamar militia today, Major Hamrock had approximately 175 men opposed to strikers, variously estimated at between 400 and 700. Daylight revealed a scene of desolation in and about Ludlow. Only one tent remains standing out of 200 or more, which for six months have been the home of several hundred strikers and their families. Husbands were separated from wives and mothers lost their children last night, in the mad rush for safety that followed the firing of the tents.

Frightened women and children today were massed about the Ludlow station, while militiamen patrolled the railroad tracks and the vicinity about the town and colony.

Searching Parties Out.

Searching parties are going over the ground of yesterday's battle looking for the bodies of victims.

No trace of large bodies of armed strikers who last night were reported to be rushing to the aid of the Ludlow strikers was seen this morning. They are believed to be in the hills west and north of Ludlow, but the groups are believed to be so broken up that no concentrated attack will be made. Several thousand rounds of rifle ammunition were exploded last night in the fire that destroyed the tents. The explosive was stored in the tent of John Lawson, Colorado member of the national executive board, United Mine Workers, according to the military reports.

Frank Snyder was killed in the tents late yesterday in an effort to save his baby sister, who, unnoticed, had scrambled out the trench in which the family had taken refuge and was toddling along the line of fire. The boy had overtaken the child and had just succeeded in rushing the little girl back into the trench when he was hit by a rifle shot.

Major Hamrock in a statement this morning declared that the fighting yesterday was precipitated by a crowd of Greek strikers under Louis Tikas who opened fire upon a detachment of his men while they were drilling near the military camp and in sight of the tent colony.

Earlier in the day, Major Hamrock had ordered Tikas to release a striker who it was charged, was desirous of returning to work.

GAS EXPLOSION IS INVESTIGATED

Wreck of Hotel, Killing of Nine Persons and Injury to Seven Subject of Inquiry.

FEW PERSONS ESCAPE

Building, Lifted Like Balloon, Drops Back Into Flames in Basement.

Macoun, Sask., April 21.—An investigation into the cause of the gas explosion which wrecked a local hotel yesterday, killing nine persons, who were in the dining room was begun by the authorities today.

So suddenly did the floor and walls of the dining room collapse into the basement that few persons in the room escaped death or injury. Most of those who perished were pinned beneath the debris and burned almost beyond recognition.

The seven persons injured were taken to Estevan where they were placed in a hospital.

Explosion of an acetylene gas plant in the cellar of the Macoun hotel at noon yesterday resulted in the loss of nine lives.

The explosion occurred at dinner time when more than thirty were in the building. On the instant the explosion occurred the main part of the hotel lifted like a balloon and settled down in a confused mass.

The Dead.

MRS. C. BOCHHAUS AND

DAUGHTER, EMMA.

JAMES BURGER.

CLIFF VANDER.

F. SCHMIDT.

WALTER CLARK.

THOMAS DRAKE.

JOSEPH GRANT.

MR. BULLOCK of Winnipeg.

Injured.

Stella Peterson, cook, not expected to live.

Six others injured, will probably recover.

Macoun is in southern Saskatchewan, ten miles north of the United States boundary and fifteen miles west of Estevan.

TODAY'S GAMES

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Boston at Philadelphia: R. H. E.

The score: Boston . . . 110 100 001—4 12 1

Philadelphia . . . 000 002 100—3 10 2

Batteries — Crutcher and Gowdy; O'Escher and Burns.

New York at Brooklyn: R. H. E.

The score: Brooklyn . . . 000 000 000—0 3 2

New York . . . 010 002 021—6 9 1

Batteries — Ruebach, Allen and Miller; Demaree and McLean.

Tesreau, the New York pitcher, was served on the field with papers in a breach of promise suit.

Pittsburg at Cincinnati: R. H. E.

The score: Pittsburg . . . 102 002 000—5 11 1

Cincinnati . . . 000 010 010—2 9 0

Batteries — McQuillan and Gibson; Yingling, Douglass and Clark and Gonzales.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

St. Louis at Chicago: R. H. E.

The score: St. Louis . . . 110 000 000—2 6 9

Chicago . . . 041 010 001—5 11 2

Batteries — Mitchell and Crossin; Benz and Schalk.

Philadelphia at Boston: R. H. E.

The score: Phila. . . 000 001 000 000—1 6 2

Boston . . . 001 000 000 000—1 6 2

Batteries — Shawkey and Schang; Leonard and Thomas.

Game called; darkness. Thirteen innings.

Washington at New York: R. H. E.

The score: Washington . . . 001 010 000 0—2 5 2

New York . . . 000 000 002 1—3 10 4

Batteries — Willett and Hartley; Fisher, Cole and Sweeney.

FEDERAL LEAGUE

Chicago at St. Louis: R. H. E.

The score: St. Louis . . . 000 012 001—4 7 1

Chicago . . . 001 100 100—3 5 2

Batteries — Willett and Hartley; Brennan and Wilson.

Brooklyn at Baltimore: R. H. E.

The score: Baltimore . . . 010 000 200—3 5 1

Brooklyn . . . 000 000 020—2 7 3

Batteries — Quinn and Jackitach; Lafitte and Owens.

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